

From Wegener's Metzlerian Inventory Cycle

$$Y_t = I_t + S_t + U_t \quad (1)$$

Income is made up of the same components as cited in Wegener's model, production for investment I_t , production for inventory S_t , and production intended for consumption in that time period C_t .

$$S_t = \hat{Q}_t - Q_{t-1} \quad (2)$$

$$\hat{Q}_t = kU_t \quad (3)$$

$$Q_{t-1} = \hat{Q}_{t-1} - (C_{t-1} - U_{t-1}) \quad (4)$$

Firms use inventory to accommodate differences between actual consumption and predicted consumption. The desired level of inventory \hat{Q}_t is assumed to be in proportion to expected levels of consumption, U_t . The actual level of inventory can thus be determined to be the difference between the expected level produced explicitly for inventory in addition to unexpected changes in inventory as a result of overproduction or underproduction of goods for consumption.

From Tönu Puu's Multiplier Accelerator Model

$$I_t = v(Y_{t-1} - Y_{t-2}) - v(Y_{t-1} - Y_{t-2})^3 \quad (5)$$

Investment is dependent on the most recent change in income.

$$C_t = (1 - s)Y_{t-1} + sY_{t-2} \quad (6)$$

Actual consumption is also based on income from the past two periods. There is a lag in the reaction of consumers to changes in income so consumption in the current period is equal to income from the previous period multiplied by the marginal propensity to consume. Moreover, income saved from two periods ago is likewise also expended in the current period. This is a typical Robertson lag as described in Metzler.

A New Mechanism for Predicting Consumption

Wegener's model incorporates heterogeneous expectations for income. This original model does not incorporate any Robertson lag but instead, it has a Lundberg style lag. That is to say, consumption is based on income of the current period but there is a lag between consumption change and response in consumption change.

By adding a Robertson lag to the model, we must readjust the timescale reactions of the model. Metzler claims that there is uncertainty with regards to which of the two forms of lags are of a shorter time scale.

If we assume that the two lags operate on the same time-scale, then expected consumption should operate on a 1-period time lag similar to that of consumption. The model described in Wegener does use a 1-period lag; however, it is reliant on the difference between the steady-state level of income and the lagged income. However, the model in Tönu Puu, depending on the parameter choice, features endogenous growth. This would result in the absence of any steady state level of income, forcing a modification of the model.

2nd-Order Homogenous Extrapolative Behavior

Similarly to Metzler's original paper, we can provide an extrapolative behavior for firms:

$$U_t = C_{t-1} + \eta_{t-1}(C_{t-1} - C_{t-2}) \quad (7)$$

where η is termed the coefficient of expectation. The case where $\eta = 0$ returns a perfect Lundberg sequence in regards to expected consumption whereas $\eta = 1$ returns the case where firms predict trends in predicted income change are constant. Values $\in (0, 1)$ involve firms damping their expectations of change.

Adaptive change in Extrapolative Behavior

It is possible to have firms effectively learn from the past by allowing η to change over time. Starting with some initial value of η , each firm can choose a new value of η in the subsequent period that would have resulted in the correct prediction in the past period. This has interesting consequences because the choice of η and subsequently U_t does affect consumption itself.

$$\eta_{t-1} = \frac{C_{t-1} - C_{t-2}}{C_{t-2} - C_{t-3}} \quad (8)$$